

We claim:

1. A maltitol solution comprising 62 to 68% by weight solids and 32 to 38% by weight water, wherein the solids comprise:

- (a) 85 to 99% by weight maltitol;
- (b) 0.1 to 7% by weight sorbitol;
- (c) 0.1 to 6 % by weight HP 3 compounds; and
- (d) 0.1 to 3% by weight HP 4+ compounds.

2. A method of making the maltitol solution of claim 1, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

(a) subjecting a feedstock comprising maltose and glucose to a hydrogenation reaction at temperatures of 100 to 190°C under a hydrogen atmosphere at a pressure of greater than 200 psig in the presence of a hydrogenation catalyst and a reaction promoter comprising magnesium powder to produce a product comprising maltitol, sorbitol, HP 3 compounds and HP 4+ compounds; and

(b) subjecting the product of step (a) to an ion exchange step and an evaporation step.

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